

## UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Wine Tasting**

Saturday, January 10 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

# Junior Sailing Open House

Sunday, January 11 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

#### **Parrot Head Party**

Saturday, January 17 David Spires & Friends

#### **Speaker Series**

Thursday, January 22

#### **Speaker Series**

Thursday, January 29

TBD

Gail Klink

# Buckeye Lake Winterfest

Saturday, January 31

Heart & Pine
7:00 am - 10:00 am

Chris Logsdon
10:30 am - 1:30 pm

Shucking Bubba Acoustic 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**CLUB CLOSES AT 5:00 PM** 



# COMMODORE VIC SCHROEDER

# Hope everyone had a safe and blessed holiday season!

Please check the calendar and the rest of the *Log* for all the exciting events planned during this quieter part of the season. We'll be enjoying plenty of fun at the lake, no matter the weather!

In the remainder of this article, I'd like to discuss the budget in more detail.

Each fiscal year, beginning in September, the Finance Committee and the Board of Governors undertake the important task of developing a budget for the upcoming year. As of this writing, they have completed this process, which involves identifying opportunities to reduce costs while proactively anticipating the Club's future needs. The result is a set of operating and capital budgets that ultimately determine the annual dues and capital improvement fees approved by the Board.

This year's thorough budget review has led to the following increases for regular members; \$25 for capital improvement fees and \$200 for annual dues.

In recent years, the Club has faced significant cost increases across several areas. Here are some key examples:

- Insurance premiums continue to rise.
- Attracting and retaining quality employees has become more challenging and costly.
- Professional accounting support services essential for accurate financial reporting and tax preparation remain expensive.
- Utility costs have stabilized somewhat after sharp increases but are still trending upward.
- Repairing and maintaining our aging facilities has grown increasingly expensive, both for labor and replacement parts.

For instance, just this month we had to demolish and rebuild the northeast corner of the building and replace one of our five HVAC systems, at a cost of approximately \$30,000. (See Brian Thom's article for additional details.)

To help control expenses, the Board discussed and approved a measure to pass credit card processing fees directly to those members who choose to pay by credit card. This decision is expected to save the membership roughly \$40,000 annually in fees. Members who member charge or use cash will not incur this additional cost.

#### COMMODORE

Continued from p. 1

Many difficult decisions have been required, and budgeting is certainly not the most enjoyable aspect of serving on the Board. That said, I want to sincerely thank this year's Board members for their hard work and diligence. I also extend my gratitude to the many members who provided valuable input throughout the process — they know who they are, and their contributions are truly appreciated.

#### See you at the Club

Commodore Vic Schroeder Commodore@buckeyelakeyc.com

#### **DOCKS & RENTALS**

- Vice Commodore Rickie Sue Grunden

Dock Lease and Boatyard Storage Lease Renewal:

Invoicing for all docks and Eastport boatyard storage is done in February, separate from your monthly statement. We need you to acknowledge you are renewing or not renewing your dock so we have time to prepare your February invoice in January. If you are renewing, return or email me a copy of your 2026 boat insurance declaration page and the boat registration with your payment. If you are chasing the sun instead of enjoying the winter weather, call your insurance agent and have them email the boat insurance declaration page.

#### The Dock Rental Fees for 2026 are as follows:

- Eastport Docks \$1200
- Area 8 \$1300
- Watkins Island East \$2100
- Watkins Island Front Basin \$2100
- Watkins Island West Basin \$2100
- Watkins Island Back Basin \$620
- Eastport Storage Nov. 1 Oct. 31, 2026 \$450

New Applications, Changing Docks, and Wait List: If you are interested in changing docks or getting a dock for the 2026 boating season, complete the dock application on the BLYC website under Docks and Rentals. We also have year-round storage areas available in the Eastport boatyard.

**Dock Assignments:** The dock assignments and dock waiting list are posted in the bar on the membership board. All dock assignments are based on the Constitution and By-laws of BLYC.

*Update on Eastport Boatyard:* ODOT will begin widening Ohio 79 in March. BLYC will lose some frontage in the Eastport boatyard when this occurs. We will notify the boat owners who are affected and assign you to another parking spot. We will help you move your boat and trailer.

#### May Your New Year be Sunny and Bright!

Rickie Sue Grunden DocksandRentals@buckeyelakeyc.com

#### **BAR & KITCHEN**

– Governor Bill Ghiz

#### **Happy New Year!**

As we start 2026, I would like to give a special thank you to the men and woman of the Auxiliary. These members spend a lot of time making our club look very nice, preparing and decorating for special events, and accomplishing many other important tasks at our club. These members spend countless hours working hard to continue the longstanding traditions of this club that we all enjoy.

With a new year, it is always a good time to look for new ideas. Member feedback has a big impact on how we try to change and improve the bar and kitchen. We love your comments and ideas. If you have any menu ideas, please email them to me.

I would like to personally thank all of the members for their patience this year.

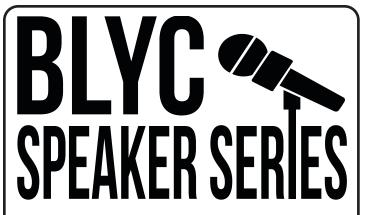
In 2026, we look forward to continuing to improve the bar and kitchen here at the club. Our goal is to provide a place where the members and their families continue to make lifetimes of memories while enjoying our facilities.

# Cheers to everyone for a safe and Happy New Year!

Bill Ghiz

BarandKitchen@buckeyelakeyc.com





# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

# LOST IN SPACE BUTCH AND SUNNY'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE

Thursday, January 29
Gail Klink

#### THE TITANIC

Thursday, February 5
Joey Giovannelli

#### **COOKING DEMO**

Thursday, February 19
Josh Hutchinson

#### FLIGHT DIVERTED ON 9/11

Thursday, February 26 Shirley Brooks-Jones

## BUCKEYE LAKE WATER QUALITY UPDATE

Thursday, March 5
Pete Thomas

#### **CRAFT BEER**

Thursday, March 19
Bob Hegedus

### HANGING BY A THREAD

THE EXTREME SPORT OF HANG GLIDING

Thursday, March 26
Mark Thogmartin

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

- Governor Mike Perez

#### **Happy New Year!**

At the December board meeting, we had 2 new members voted into the club. They are listed below with their first mate.

# David Samson and first mate Nancy Jan Ellis and first mate Gary

We also had one first reading that will be voted on at the January board meeting. Check out their information on the bulletin board in the bar area.

Membership is now open on a limited basis. If you know of someone who wants to become a member, please have them submit an online application.

Please continue to make sure all your personal information is current in the member directory. It can be updated through your portal.

If you're heading south for the winter, have fun! If you're staying here, I hope you participate in some of the fun things the club has planned for this winter, including the famous Winterfest!

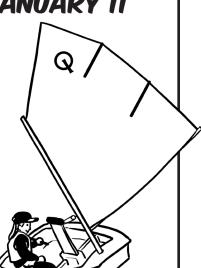
I wish everyone a great 2026! May it be your best year ever!

See You at the Club

Mike Perez Membership@buckeyelakeyc.com

# JUNIOR SAILING OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, JANUARY II

Join us in the Commodores Lounge from 2:00 to 4:00 to learn about this year's Junior Sailing Camps & Race Program





# Parrot Mead Parrot Mead

Saturday, January 17

#### Soup

Jambalaya

#### **Appetizers**

Coconut Shrimp Honey Tequila Lime Shrimp Pineapple Teriyaki Chicken Wings Jamaican Jerk Dry Rub Wings Shark Bites

#### **Salads**

Tropical Salad
Spinach, Watermelon, Feta, Mint, Cucumber, Onion
Tropical Quinoa Salad

#### **Entrees**

#### **Pineapple Rice Bowls**

Choice of Jerk Chicken, Teriyaki Swordfish, Honey Tequila Lime Shrimp, or Teriyaki Beef

#### Cheeseburger in Paradise

Krabby Patty

Crabcake Burger

Fish or Shrimp Tacos Teriyaki Swordfish

#### **Desserts**

Key Lime Pie Coconut Cheesecake Bars

Watch the Weekly e-News for Pricing and Details

#### **Entertainment:**

David Spires & Friends

7:00 - 10:00



#### JUNIOR TRAINING

- Governor Jen Lynch

Hoping you had a wonderful holiday and wishing good health and prosperity to you and yours in 2026. In December, I attended the Inter-Lake Yachting Association Fall Meeting in Detroit as the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club delegate along with BLYC member and past I-LYA Commodore Steve Harris. It was a great opportunity to meet and learn from other yacht clubs and better understand how we partner and coordinate in the I-LYA. We firmed up the regatta series and confirmed Buckeye Lake for the first event on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>!

I am excited to share our dates for sailing camps this summer! Please consider registering your children, grandchildren, or other children in your life. I can speak from experience that our BLYC junior program is exceptional. The kids have a fun week on the water with other youth, learning from our experienced Coach Katy Schroeder and her team.

Junior Sailing Camp Dates for 2026:

June 1-5 — Beginner

June 15-19 — Beginner

June 22-26 — Intermediate

June 29-July 3 — Advanced

The junior sailing open house will be on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 - 4:00 pm in the Commodores Lounge. If you cannot attend but want to learn more, please email me at juniortraining@buckeyelakeyc.com

We will open up registration on January 14<sup>th</sup>! Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or ideas.

#### Looking forward to a fun filled 2026 at BLYC!

Jen Lynch JuniorTraining@buckeyelakeyc.com

#### **BLYC AUXILIARY**

#### **Happy New Year from the Auxiliary**

As we welcome the New Year, the BLYC Auxiliary would like to wish all our members and their families a happy, healthy, and prosperous year ahead. Thank you for your continued support throughout the past season. The Auxiliary will be taking a short winter break and look forward to resuming activities this spring. Until then, enjoy the off season, and we look forward to seeing everyone back at the lake soon.

Michele, Kim, Lori, Cathy, Julie & Mike

#### RACE & REGATTA

- Rear Commodore Bob Hegedus

#### **Happy New Year, BLYC!**

As the holiday season winds down and the new year begins, the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club is already looking forward to the exciting 2026 sailing season! While the docks may be quiet for a little while longer, we have a calendar packed with educational and social events to keep our sailing community engaged and prepared for the spring.

#### Get Ready to Sail: Important Dates to Mark!

Dust off your foul weather gear and sharpen your racing knowledge! We have finalized a fantastic lineup of sessions and seminars designed for every member, from seasoned skippers to new enthusiasts. Here are the current events being planned through April:

#### **Tar Social & Sailing Kick-Off**

Sunday, February 8 — 1:00 - 3:00

A great opportunity to connect with fellow sailors, hear about the upcoming season, and enjoy some time together

#### **Race Committee 101 Seminar**

Sunday, February 22 — 1:00 - 3:00

Learn the ins and outs of race management, a fundamental and highly rewarding club volunteer activity

#### Mini Safety at Sea Seminar

Sunday, March 8 — 1:00 - 3:00

Essential training covering key safety topics to ensure all our sailors are prepared for any situation on the water

# Racing Rules of Sailing Seminar RRS Part 2 — "When Boats Meet"

Sunday, March 22 — 1:00 - 3:00

A deeper dive into the racing rules to help you gain an edge and sail confidently

#### **Racing Rules of Sailing Follow-Up Seminar**

Sunday, April 12 — 1:00 - 3:00

An in-depth review of the rules to get you ready for the competitive season ahead

# Ohio Boating Education Course FREE Course —Taught by ODNR

Saturday, April 25 — 8:00 - 5:00

A full-day course fulfilling the state's mandatory education requirements. Perfect for new boaters and a good refresher for all!

Bob Hegedus RaceandRegatta@buckeyelakeyc.com

# LET US KNOW ABOUT YOUR DINING EXPERIENCE

www.buckeyelakeyc.com/feedback

#### **HOUSE & GROUNDS**

- Governor Brian Thom

#### **Happy New Year!**

Your House and Grounds department has been very busy over that last month and will continue to be busy over the winter. The snow has come early this year. I would like to thank Rick Thompson who not only takes care of our lawn, but also does our snow removal for us to help ensure the safety of our members.

The upstairs storage room renovation is completed on time and, we are in process of getting everything upstairs back in tip top shape. Electrical repairs have also been completed throughout the club since, as you may have noticed, the lights would periodically flicker. New low voltage dimmer switches were installed because the old dimmers were not compatible with the newer led lights. We are also in the process of designing a new bar for the pool area as the current one has seen better days. This new pool bar will not only be compatible with potentially a new pool over the next few years but also will be able to service the pool and the front basin. It's hopeful that this project will be completed by late spring of this year (2026). I will try to keep everyone updated as things move forward.

We will also stay focused on the inside of the club here over the winter to freshen things up and keep the club looking nice. The HVAC ductwork will also be cleaned this month. This has never been done before and should help with the quality of the air we breathe. Please feel free to reach out with any questions, concerns or even ideas to help make the club great. I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Brian Thom HouseandGrounds@buckeyelakeyc.com



#### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

- Fleet Chaplain Mark Thogmartin

#### In the Same Boat

"We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now."

— Martin Luther King

As we float into a new year, I've chosen a fresh focus for these Chaplain's Corner reflections. Quotations about boats are prolific out there, so I will use a "boat quote" from a famous (or not so famous) individual as inspiration for each month's piece.

Because we honor Dr. King's legacy in the month of January, we'll start with a quote he used in several speeches. I did a little research to find out if Martin Luther King ever owned a boat. There is no record that he did. But he often visited the island of Bimini in the Bahamas for rest, rejuvenation, reflection, and writing. Interestingly, Dr. King worked on his final major speech, "I've Been to the Mountaintop," while on a friend's skiff there, among the mangroves, just four days before his assassination in 1968.

The meaning of Dr. King's boat metaphor above is obvious, given his mission and the era in which he lived and ministered. While some of us may believe that the injustices of those times are behind us, the rest of us might respond "Well, not so much." Prejudice is often a deeply rooted thing. We see it culturally, and we notice it in others, but it's hard to detect in our own individual hearts. Is it possible for us humans to not have strong feelings about the morals, values, or trends connected to people and the groups with which they identify and in which they function? Probably not. But it certainly is possible to be friends with, respect, and show kindness to the individuals we encounter each day despite the differences that exist between us!

Even in the membership of the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club, a fair amount of diversity exists. If any member wants to exercise his or her kindness and respect muscles, the Club provides a great environment in which to do so. We take different ships to the Club but, while we are there, we're in the same boat.

"Finally, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, affectionate, compassionate, and humble" (1 Peter 3:8, NET). The Apostle Peter's admonition to his flock is appropriate for us nearly 2,000 years later. Our world now is more connected, and the boats we use are far more advanced, but the challenges of diversity really haven't changed that much.

Mark Thogmartin FleetChaplain@Buckeyelakeyc.com

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

- Governor Dean Pickett

I want to thank everyone for a great holiday season. The Club has once again been impressive. Whether it was showing up for the Good Neighbor Party, or one of the other parties we had in December (the Children's Christmas Party, the Adult Christmas Party, or the Ugly Sweater Party), or the NYE Celebration, I say "Thank You!" In January, we will slow down with live entertainment, but this does not mean will have not have entertaining activities. Here are the great activities we have planned;

Saturday, January 10
Wine Tasting
Saturday, January 17
Parrot Head Party
with David Spires

Thursday, January 22 Speaker Series Begins

As we begin to schedule for our 2026 entertainment, I am looking forward to introducing new entertainment to our club, as well as keeping our other loyal entertainers. As always, if you have an entertainment group (solo or multiple), send me their contact information and I will reach out to the and try to schedule them.

Dean Pickett Entertainment@buckeyelakeyc.com



# Get your 2026 BLYC Member Dues paid by the BLYC Auxiliary!

Tickets are only \$35 each and can be purchased via member charge online.
Just scan the QR code to get yours today! The winning ticket will be drawn February 28.



#### COMMUNICATIONS

- Governor Kendall Cottongim

As we finish out of the Holiday season and move into the New Year, I wanted to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2026. I am excited to experience this upcoming year with you, to celebrate 250 years of America, and to celebrate 120 years of Buckeye Lake Yacht Club history.

I know every officer, board member, and trustee is working diligently to be good stewards of our funds and still provide the best products and services possible. Having said that, I want to continue reminding everyone that if they see an issue, say something to any officer, board member, or event host. We are only as good as the feedback we receive, both good and maybe not so good. So thanks for being observant and for all of your support.

Remember to check the weekly e-News that comes out on Wednesday via email. If you are not getting emails please let me or the office staff know, and we will resolve your email address. Save the calendar at the back of every *Log*, and check it often for special events. And make sure to like the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club Facebook page to also see cool pictures and up to date information. My email is communications@buckeyelakeyc.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Happy New Year! Go BUCKS! Be SAFE! See you at the Club.

Kendall Cottongim Communications@buckeyelakeyc.com



Each week, Josh and the kitchen staff prepare several great weekly features for your dining pleasure.

Check them out online at

www.buckeyelakeyc.com/gobs-mess/weekly-features

#### LOOKING AFT

- P/C Steve Harris, BLYC Historian

# Who was our Commodore... 75 Years Ago?

I wrote about Commodore Schell just a few years ago in my series discussing the various perpetual trophies and awards that we give out each year at BLYC. As this year is the 75th anniversary of his service as Commodore, I thought it would be good to discuss him again.

— SGH

#### Who was Commodore Gus Schell?

Gus Schell was born the son of German immigrants in Columbus, Ohio in 1912. He began a lifelong career in the theatrical business, working in the company his father founded, Schell Scenic Studio, at the age of eight. An "All Ohio Athlete," Gus excelled on the baseball team and as quarterback on the football team at Central High School in Columbus, where he was also President of the Class of 1931. While his career was in theater, his interests and activities were very diverse. He enjoyed celebrating his German heritage as a member of the Columbus Maennerchor Men's Chorus and also sang with the "Singing Buckeyes" Barbershop Quartet. His love of sport extended into his adult life throughout which he encouraged sportsmanship in many young central Ohio athletes; he served as President of the Columbus Agonis Club in 1972, was on the board of the Ernie Godfrey Chapter of the National College Football Hall of Fame, a life member of the Central Ohio Home Plate Club, a lifelong supporter of Ohio State Athletics, and a constant source of support and encouragement for the junior sailing programs of both I-LYA and the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club.

Gus' life was dedicated to service to others above all else. In addition to his professional, sporting, and yachting activities, Gus was very active in numerous service organizations throughout his life. He was a life



Commodore Gus Schell (1975 — I-LYA)

member of the Charity Newsies and an active member of Rotary International. Gus joined the Buckeye Lake Yacht Club in 1946 and served as Commodore in 1951. His service to both the Club and the boating community continued up until his death. He was recognized with BLYC's highest honor — the Heber Yachtsman Merit Trophy for sportsmanship, seamanship, and character — in 1963 and was perpetually honored in 2000 with the creation of the the Commodore Gustav Schell Award for Meritorious Service— "The Gussie." It is given annually to a Past Commodore of the Club who has remained active and involved beyond their time on the Board and has provided exceptional service to BLYC. Although it is a relatively new award — only having been awarded over the last couple of decades — the legacy of this award is substantial and the recipient list is a veritable "Who's Who" of BLYC. The award was instituted both to recognize those who tirelessly serve the Club, and also in recognition of Gus' example of service to others. The inaugural recipient was Commodore Marque Debenport (1995). Among other things, Marque labored tirelessly creating and maintaining a computerized point-of-sale system for the Club — long before such systems were commercially available.

Gus was also an active member in the Columbus Sail & Power Squadron, the local flotilla of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Navy League of the United States, the Put-in-Bay Yacht Club, and many other boating

associations and clubs.

Gus was an avid boater — both power and sail. For many years, as you crossed the bridge to Watkins Island, one of the first sights to welcome you was his 1948 Chris Craft Sedan, *Margus II* — named such for himself and his wife, Martha. He had the boat restored for the 1998 BLYC Wooden Boat Show and was featured in the in the *Columbus Dispatch* that year.

Gus was perhaps most proud, however, to serve as the Commodore of the Inter-Lake Yachting Association in 1975. In that same year, he and his crew on board Cat's Paw, a Luedtke K-Cat sailboat, won the "Ghost Trophy" in the annual Sail Regatta. Gus continued to be very active in I-LYA up into his 90's, never missing a meeting, serving as an emeritus member on the Board of Trustees of the Inter-Lake Yachtsmen's Fund, on the Advisory Committee, and attending and participating in all three I-LYA regattas — juniors, power, and sail — through 2008. Many members will recall enjoyable afternoon conversations on the front porch of the Dodge House at Put-in-Bay with him and Martha during the regattas, his service on the Race Committee, his quick wit, and his never ending support of BLYC, I-LYA, and their officers and members.

Commodore Schell passed away in August of 2012, at the age of 99.



Commodore Gus Schell (2007)



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raceandregatta@buckeyelakeyc.com





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# JANUARY 2026

	SATURDAY	3	Dining 11:00-9:00	10	Wine Tasting 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Dining 11:00-9:00	17	Parrot Head Party David Spires & Friends 7:00-10:00	Dining 11:00-9:00	24		Winterfest 31	Heart & Pine 7:00-10:00 Chris Logsdon 10:30-1:30 Shucking Bubba Acoustic	Club Closes @ 5:00
	FRIDAY	2	00:6-00:5	6		Dining 5:00-9:00	16		Dining 5:00-9:00	23		30		Dining 5:00-9:00
	THURSDAY	:	Dining 5:00-9:00	8	Board Meeting	Dining 5:00-9:00	15		Dining 5:00-9:00	22		29	<b>Speaker Series</b> Model Railroading Gail Klink	Dining 5:00-9:00
	WEDNESDAY	rfest nuary 31	ERS NEEDED! Charlie Campbell	7		Dining 5:00-9:00	14		Dining 5:00-9:00	21		28		Dining 5:00-9:00
	TUESDAY	Vinterfes Saturday, January 31	OLUNTEERS NEEDEI Contact P/C Charlie Campbell	9	Club Closed		13	Club Closed		20	Club Closed	27	Club Closed	
	MONDAY		ος /	37	Club Closed		12	Club Closed		19	Club Closed -	26	Club Closed	
	SUNDAY			4		Dining 9:00-7:00	11	Junior Sailing OPEN HOUSE 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Dining 9:00-7:00	18		25		Dining 9:00-7:00



#### STANDING COMMITTEES & APPOINTMENTS

Rick Hoffman

David Paligo

Secretary/Treasurer Fleet Captain - Sail Fleet Captain - Power Fleet Surgeon Fleet Chaplain I-LYA Delegate **Parliamentarian** Historian **Finance Committee** 

Brian Thom Doctor John Vangilder, M.D. Mark Thogmartin, PhD Commodore Don Harris Tom Campbell Commodore Steve Harris Commodore Mark Pyle, Chair Commodore David Luttenberger Commodore Rose McEntire Commodore Charlie Campbell Commodore Bill Collinson Commodore Mike Bruckelmeyer

Vice Commodore Vic Schroeder

Commodores Association Commodore Rose McEntire **Insurance Committee Classic Boat Regatta Snowball Regatta Annual Golf Outing** 

Commodore Bill Collinson Commodore Charlie Campbell Commodore Steve Harris Commodore Jeff Hamilton **Bob Dye Memorial Poker Run** Barb Hein Commodores' Steak Nite Commodore Greg Miller

Commodore Mark Russell Commodore Rose McEntire Good Neighbor Committee Commodore Greg Miller

Mallory Miller-Sherer Classic Car Show

**Howard & Rosa Clark** Scholarship Fund

Jeff Schwartz Commodore Greg Miller Evan Miller

YACHT CLUB





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> Bar & Kitchen **Governor Jen Lynch** Junior Training **Governor Mike Perez**

Membership

**Governor Dean Pickett** 

Entertainment

**Governor Brian Thom** 

House & Grounds

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**Commodore Charlie Campbell** 

**Commodore Jeff Hamilton** 

**Commodore Mike Bruckelmeyer** 

Ish Howe, Front-of-House Manager Josh Hutchinson, Executive Chef Rebecca Miller, Office Manager

**AUXILIARY OFFICERS** 

**President Michele DelMatto Vice President Cathy Blaies** Vice President Kim Oyer Co-Treasurer Julie Bruckelmeyer Co-Treasurer Mike Bruckelmeyer **Secretary Lori Falter** 

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