



THE BILGE PUMP

Keuka Yacht Club

Volume 35, Issue 1

January 19, 2019

Greetings KYC Membership,

Happy (somewhat belated) New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and are someplace where you can enjoy the "winter event" about to blanket our Club with a healthy blanket of snow. A good dose of winter always sparks thoughts of warmer weather, so I thought it made the perfect opportunity to say hello and share some Club news.

Your Board of Directors have stayed active since things shut down last fall. Most recently, we've approved our budget and capital spending plan for 2019. The financial position of the Club remains strong from an operational standpoint, but the need to continue investing in capital improvements is very much on our minds. In 2018, we replaced the roof on the main clubhouse, a project that was well overdue. This improvement should last 25+ years and stand up well to the weather we are about to receive. Other significant, non-operational spending included a new ice machine for the bar/kitchen and a new motor for our Race Committee signal boat. All told, we spent close to \$35,000 on capital improvements last year, which consumed most of the net income from normal operations last year.

Looking ahead, we have more to do. The flooring on the main level is worn and in need of replacement. This work has been approved and will occur in the spring. We are also closely monitoring the health of our range/oven in the kitchen and are well aware of some paving needs on our asphalt. But our biggest need, and overall risk to the well-being of the Club, is the condition of our seawall, from the area north of the E Scow hoist (which was replaced several years ago) to the north end of the property.

Slip holders felt the impact of our docks and seawall concern when they opened their recent invoices. We raised slip fees as a means to set aside money for anticipated repairs, and I thank those who rent space on our docks for their continued support. We benchmarked other marinas on the lake and maintained a price structure that still makes us a comparative bargain. The waiting list we have for slips certainly attests for that. We plan to set this increased revenue aside, along with capital spending on the seawall we are diverting from this year, in order to begin significant work in 2020. That said, the need is great, and I'd ask each of you, including non-slip-holders like me, to consider sending an additional check to help us build up the fund necessary to protect a major asset of our Club.

As for you land lubbers with kids, we also have an ambitious project underway by the Norris family to upgrade the playground. So if that feels more worthwhile, please consider sending a check in for that.

I'm in my 4th year as your Commodore and this is the first time I've asked you to give more financially. Some have already given, and I thank those of you who have done so. Making an appeal like this is not something I enjoy doing, but I truly believe we are riding a great wave of increased activity and feel a responsibility to make sure we do all we can now to keep our Club viable and enjoyable for many years to come. Thanks for your support. See you in the spring. Club Scrub is April 27th, a mere 14 weeks away!

Sincerely,

Steve Bender
Commodore
Keuka Yacht Club